

**MINUTES OF THE
TRANSPORTATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, October 17, 2012 – 9:00 a.m. – Room 30 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell, Senate Chair
Rep. Bradley M. Daw, House Chair
Sen. Scott K. Jenkins
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Sen. Karen Mayne
Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher
Rep. Stewart Barlow
Rep. Rebecca P. Edwards
Rep. Janice M. Fisher
Rep. Craig A. Frank
Rep. Stephen G. Handy

Rep. Lynn N. Hemingway
Rep. Todd E. Kiser
Rep. Bradley G. Last
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss
Rep. Val L. Peterson
Rep. Kraig Powell
Rep. Kenneth W. Sumsion

Staff Present:

Mr. Leif G. Elder, Policy Analyst
Ms. Shannon C. Halverson, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Tracey Fredman, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Van Tassell called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. Last moved to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2012, meeting. Rep. Edwards, Rep. Fisher, Rep. Peterson, and Rep. Powell were absent for the vote.

2. Annual Report of Driving Under the Influence Related Data

Mr. Ronald B. Gordon, Executive Director, Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, and Mary Lou Emerson, Director, Utah Substance Abuse Advisory Council, distributed, reviewed, and responded to committee members' questions on the "Tenth Annual DUI Report to the Utah Legislature."

Colonel Dan Fuhr, Utah Highway Patrol, responded to questions about the relationship between the presence of law enforcement on Utah's highways and the number of fatalities in particular years as indicated in the report.

Rep. Kiser pointed out that the cost of putting a trooper on the road is worth the lives saved, and suggested the committee look at appropriations to fund officers to catch drunk drivers in order to protect the public.

3. Draft Legislation "Amendments to Ignition Interlock Program"

Sen. Thatcher introduced and discussed the provisions contained in draft legislation "Amendments to Ignition Interlock Program" (2013FL-364/002).

MOTION: Sen. Thatcher moved to recommend draft legislation "Amendments to Ignition Interlock Program" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Mayne and Rep. Last were absent for the vote.

4. Safety at Intersections

Rep. Jack R. Draxler introduced Mr. Tom Findlay and his wife, Mrs. Janna Findlay, citizens, who presented to the committee a written statement of their involvement in several intersection accidents.

Mr. Elder distributed and briefed committee members on "Automated Red Light Enforcement Laws Among the 50 States."

Mr. Carlos Braceras, Deputy Director, Utah Department of Transportation, presented "Intersection Safety" and discussed various methods to improve safety at intersections throughout the state, including the installation of flashing yellow arrows for left turn signals, the replacement of incandescent lights with LED lights, the installation of signal lane indicators for multiple lane roadways, the placement of signal back plates to increase visibility, and the education of Utah drivers.

Major Mike Rappich, Utah Highway Patrol, stated that the Utah Highway Patrol does not see a need for statutory change. He noted that engineering solutions are what is needed, and he spoke in support of the efforts being made by the Utah Department of Transportation.

No action was taken on this item.

5. State Highway System Changes

Ms. Linda Hull, Director, Legislative and Government Affairs, Utah Department of Transportation, briefed committee members on changes being made to the State Highway System.

MOTION: Rep. Daw moved that staff open a priority committee bill file to authorize changes to the State Highway System. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Draft Legislation "High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Amendments"

Rep. Handy introduced and discussed provisions of draft legislation "High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Amendments" (2013FL-0254/006). Rep. Handy and Ms. Hull responded to committee members' questions.

MOTION: Rep. Handy moved to recommend draft legislation "High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Amendments" as a committee bill. The motion passed with Rep. Frank, Rep. Peterson, and Rep. Sumsion voting in opposition. Sen. Mayne, Rep. Kiser, and Rep. Moss were absent for the vote.

7. Draft Legislation "State Park Access Amendments"

Rep. Last introduced and discussed provisions of draft legislation "State Park Access Amendments" (2013FL-0044/002).

MOTION: Rep. Last moved to recommend draft legislation "State Park Access Amendments" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Jenkins, Sen. Mayne, Rep. Barlow, Rep. Kiser, and Rep. Moss were absent for the vote.

8. Draft Legislation "Disposal of Personal Property"

Ms. Hull and Mr. Lyle McMillan, Director, Division of Right of Way, Utah Department of Transportation, discussed provisions of draft legislation "Disposal of Personal Property" (2013FL-0054/005), and responded to committee members' questions.

MOTION: Rep. Daw moved to recommend draft legislation "Disposal of Personal Property" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Jenkins and Rep. Kiser were absent for the vote.

9. Other Items / Adjourn

Chair Van Tassell noted a need for Utah to be in compliance with federal commercial driver license laws and requested that a committee bill file be opened to make necessary amendments to state statute.

MOTION: Rep. Peterson moved that staff open a priority bill file to address commercial driver license amendments. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Jenkins and Rep. Kiser were absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Peterson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Jenkins and Rep. Kiser were absent for the vote.

Chair Van Tassell adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.